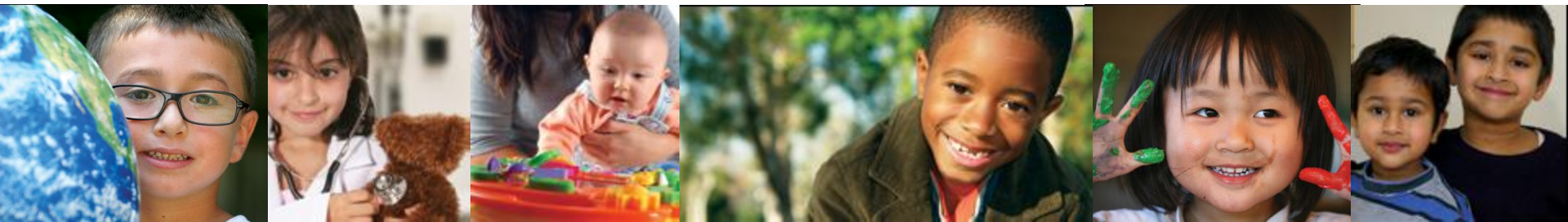




Salt Lake City Children's Environmental Health & Environmental Justice Initiative

Bridging the Community with Federal Partners Webinar

January 17th, 2013



How did this project start?

- Government agencies & community organizations came together
 - Robust, results-oriented partnerships among federal, state and local agencies, community organizations, and the communities themselves

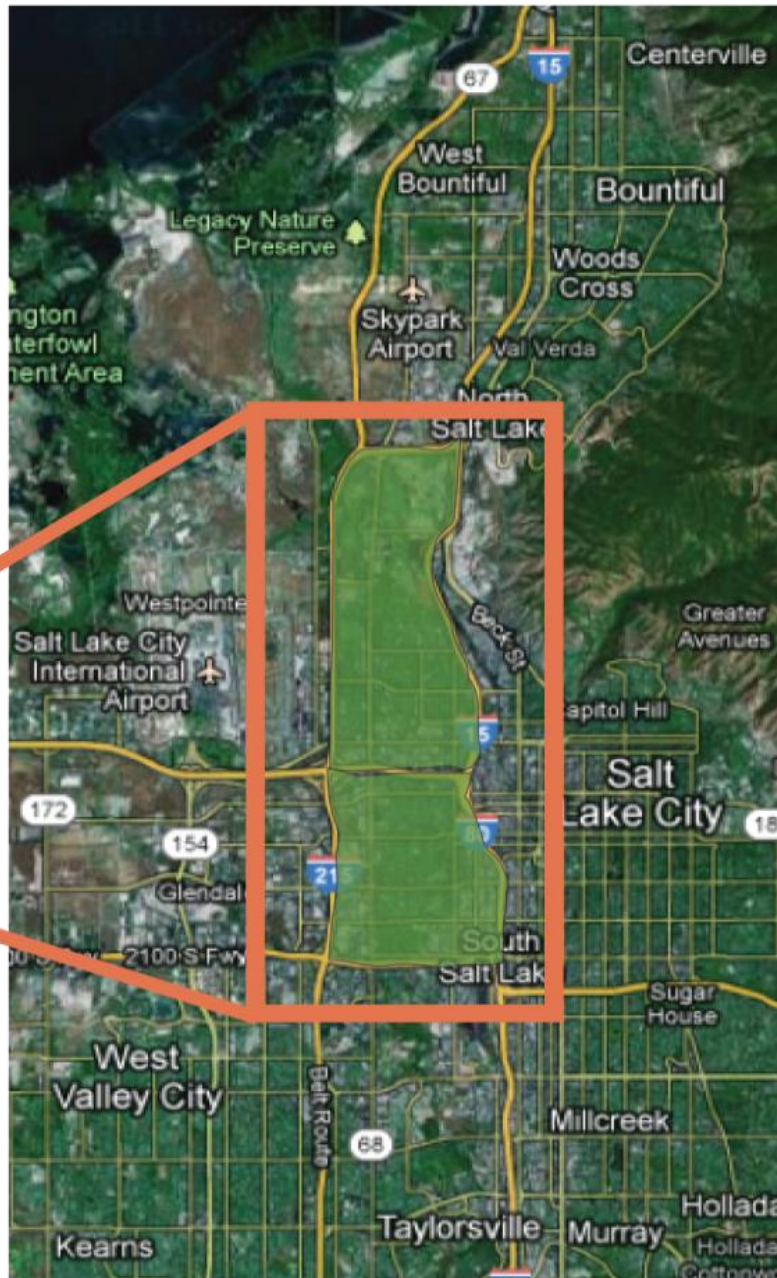





Utah



Salt Lake County



 Project Area

Environmental Justice communities are those with multiple, disproportionate environmental health burdens, population vulnerability, and limits to effective participation in decisions with environmental and health consequences.

Community Demographics

- Designated **refugee area**
- **39 % minorities**
- Half of residents speak a language other than English – over **25 different languages**
- **78 % of minority enrollment** school (k-12)
- $\sim \frac{1}{4}$ of population is **below the poverty line**



What is the Project Goal?

To make a positive difference in the environmental health of children through collaboration and community problem solving

Why Children? Children are not simply “little adults”. Their developing bodily systems often make them more vulnerable than adults to harmful environmental exposures. They eat more, drink more, and breathe more in proportion to their body size than adults do. Their behavior also can expose them to a greater amount of chemicals and harmful organisms.



What are the Project Objectives?

- **Empower** the community to reduce environmental risks to children.
- Achieve a more **holistic, integrated approach** to children's environmental health that is **sustainable** in the community and **replicable** for communities outside of the initiative.
- Build **collaborative, community-based** partnerships.
- Improve agency **coordination** and **leverage** resources.



Project Process Model



Pathway Towards a Healthier Community

Salt Lake City Children's Environmental Health & Environmental Justice Initiative

Lessons Learned

- Partnership building takes a long time
- Engage organizations and individuals early around a tangible activity
- Money changes everything
- Bean counting isn't everything...what does success look like to the community?
- Meet the community where THEY are
- Whoever shows up are the right people



Comunidades Unidas / Communities United

- Community-based organization working in Salt Lake since 1999.
- *Vision*: Every immigrant in Utah becomes a healthy, self-sufficient, and active member of the community.
- Two initiative areas:
 - Community Well-being
 - Community Engagement



Community Environmental Health Needs Assessment

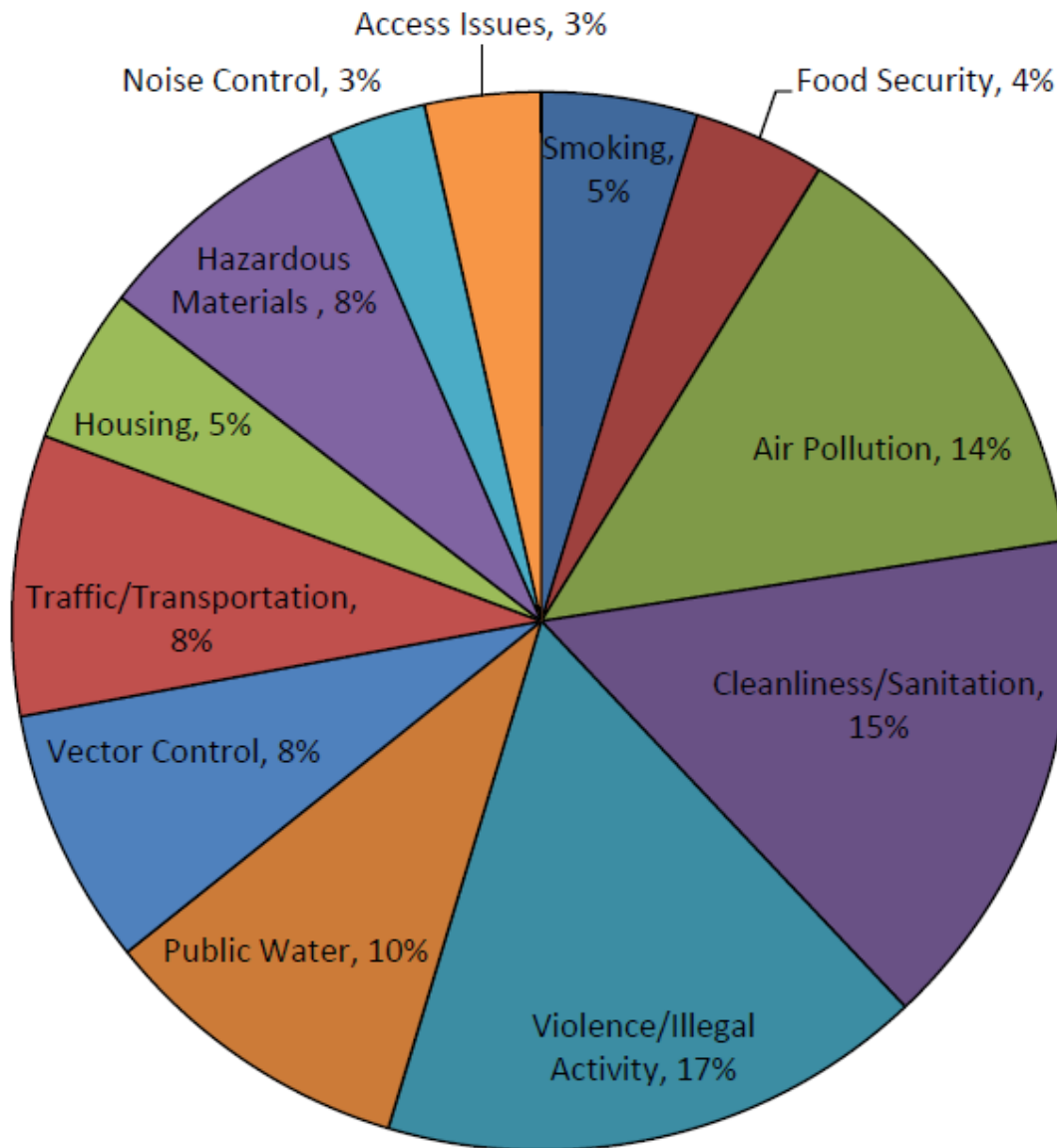
- Define target population.
- Engagement strategy
 - **Build off of existing programs:** existing outreach efforts, workshops, and events
 - **Mobilizing a partners network:** working with schools, libraries, religious institutions, community organizations, etc...

Community Environmental Health Needs Assessment

- Working with the community:
 - 60+ meetings
 - 9 neighborhoods
 - 26 community leaders and 15 + partner agencies
 - 550 community members interviewed



Figure 22. Frequency of each area of concern when combining results from over 60 individual focus groups in all 9 neighborhoods.



Priority Areas Selected

1. Community Building
2. Jordan River Clean-up & Community Celebration
3. Asthma and Green & Healthy Homes
4. Community Leadership Training

Communicating the Results

- Used Community Needs Assessment as a tool for engagement
 - Community-building around Jordan River
 - 1 large clean-up event: 15 + agencies, 100 + community members.
 - 2 smaller scale events: around 20 community members.

Community Leadership Trainings

- 8 week course:
 - Intro to Community Leadership
 - Immigration, Citizenship and Leadership
 - Relationship Building / Partnership Development
 - Meeting Facilitation / Conflict Resolution
 - Communication & Public Engagement.
 - Engaging Government & Local Stakeholders.

Community Leadership Trainings

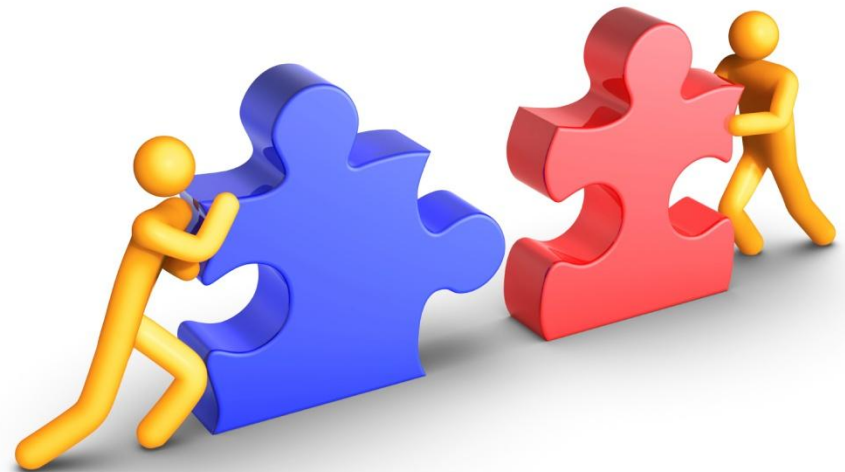
- Results:
 - 3 Cohorts
 - 27 Participants: parents, students, youth living on the West Side of Salt Lake.
 - 21 Graduated Successfully
 - 6 Different Capstone Projects:
 - School Nutrition / School Community Garden.
 - Children's Safety
 - Mental Health
 - Education

2012 Community Leadership Training Graduates



Partnership Development

- Expanded our partnership network.
- Working with “non-traditional” partners.
- Increased Collective Impact.
- Increased sustainability - beyond funding period.



THANK YOU!

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